



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/933,264	08/20/2001	Mahshid Ellie Abdollahi	68775-044	5255

21890 7590 11/19/2004

PROSKAUER ROSE LLP  
PATENT DEPARTMENT  
1585 BROADWAY  
NEW YORK, NY 10036-8299

EXAMINER

JOO, JOSHUA

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2154

DATE MAILED: 11/19/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/933,264

Applicant(s)

ABDOLLAHI ET AL.

Examiner

Joshua Joo

Art Unit

2154

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 20 August 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

## Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Art Unit: 2154

1. Claims 1-5 are presented for examination.
2. Claims 1-5 are rejected.

### ***Specification***

3. Applicant is reminded of the proper language and format for an abstract of the disclosure.
4. The abstract should be in narrative form and generally limited to a single paragraph on a separate sheet within the range of 50 to 150 words. It is important that the abstract not exceed 150 words in length since the space provided for the abstract on the computer tape used by the printer is limited. The form and legal phraseology often used in patent claims, such as "means" and "said," should be avoided. The abstract should describe the disclosure sufficiently to assist readers in deciding whether there is a need for consulting the full patent text for details.
5. Please make the appropriate corrections.

### ***Claim Objections***

6. Claim 1 is objected to because of the following informalities: The claim is not aligned properly. Please correct the formatting.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

7. Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gosselin, US Patent #6,738,639 and in view of Bremer et al, US Patent #6,553,002 (Bremer hereinafter).

Art Unit: 2154

8. As per claim 1, Gosselin teaches an invention for reducing network traffic by assigning a group address to a plurality of base stations for use with multicast communications to the members of the group. Gosselin's invention comprises of:

a) Dividing a plurality of nodes into one or more groups, including a particular group of one or more nodes. (Col 6, lines 14-28. Base stations are associated to form one of more multicast group, and a separate multicast group is formed for the center's service area.)

b) Receiving a specification to send a set of one or more commands to the particular group of nodes, the specification designating the group and not specifying any particular node of the group. (Col 7, lines 14-20. The center sends a signaling command to the group address. Col 6, lines 44-50. A group address is assigned to the group, where the group address does not identify a particular base station.)

c) If each node of the particular group of nodes has a return path to a source of messages, and if the particular group includes a plurality of nodes then, for each given node of the group. (Col 7, lines 14-20. Base stations of the group respond to a signaling command to configure interfaces from the switching center.)

e) Waiting to receive a response packet acknowledging proper receipt of the packet from the given node (Col 9, line 65 to Col 10, line 8. Switching center waits for a response from a signal send to the multicast group.)

9. Wherein an operator can designate a given list of messages for execution by an entire group by reference to an indication of the group, rather than by separately specifying each given node of the group at the time specifying the specific list of messages to be executed. (Col 9, lines 20-24. Switching center may send a multicast message to the nodes using the group's

Art Unit: 2154

multicast group address. Col 6, lines 49-50. Group address does not identify a particular base station. Col 7, lines 15-20. Switching center sends command to the multicast group to configure interfaces.)

10. Gosselin's invention differs from the claimed invention in that Gosselin does not describe the information being send is a packet, in which the packet contains a network layer header, including an address corresponding to the given node, but not the other nodes, of the group, a second header specifying a syntax and semantic by which the packet may be parsed, and one or more messages to be send.

11. Bremer teaches an invention for routing packets in a communications network, where the packet contains headers that store the data, information regarding how it will be parsed, and the address of the source host and the destination (Col 6, lines 29-51).

12. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Gosselin and Bremer to use packets for communications in Gosselin's invention because using packets to route information would improve Gosselin's invention by increasing the efficiency of Gosselin's invention since for packet routing, each packet contains the destination address, so each packet is send along the best route from source to destination, possibly in alternative routes to take advantage of the network. It provides a fast and efficient method for networking.

13. Claim 2 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gosselin and Bremer and in view of Johnson et al, US Patent #6,247,059 (Johnson hereinafter).

Art Unit: 2154

14. Gosselin does not teach the method wherein the packet is transmitted to a second one of the given nodes of the group at the time of, or after, transmitting the packet to a first one of the given nodes of the group but before receipt of the response packet from the first given node of the group acknowledging receipt of the packet transmitted thereto.

15. Johnson teaches of an invention for multicasting messages to determine if earlier send messages were received. Johnson's invention transmits a multicast message to nodes, where the sender waits for the receipt of acknowledges from each intended receiver node (Col 6, lines 9-44).

16. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Gosselin, Bremer, and Johnson to use multicast communications in Gosselin's invention because it improves the efficiency of Gosselin's invention by improving network traffic since for multicasting, instead of sending individual packets to each node, generating traffic, just one packet is send to the group of the nodes.

17. Claims 3, 4 and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gosselin and Bremer and in view of Kekic et al, US Patent #5,999,179 (Kekic hereinafter).

18. As per claim 3, Gosselin does not teach the method of wherein each given node of the group has a return path to the source of commands and wherein the command is request to retrieve a specific information obtainable from each given node of the group, the method further comprising the step of:

f) Receiving from each given node of the group a current value of the specific information obtainable from the respective given node.

19. Kekic teaches an invention for client-server network management system, where a managed network element replies to the requested information from the server (Col 15, lines 59-60), a user can manage the attributes of the managed network element (Col 27, lines 20-31), where the user can obtain the MIB variable values from the element (Col 28, lines 31-39). A network element can be any element in a computer network that can be managed by protocols such as SNMP (Col 16, lines 37-39).

20. It would have obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Gosselin, Bremer, and Kekic to have the ability to receive specific information from the managed elements because it increases the capability of Gosselin's invention by allowing the server to communicate with the nodes and allowing the server to manage and control the elements from remote locations.

21. As per claim 4, Gosselin does not teach the method wherein each given node of the group contains at least a portion of a hierarchically organized management information base (MIB), the method comprising the step of displaying on a display device the hierarchical organization of the MIB and a list of specific parameters of the MIB to be accessed.

22. Kekic teaches an invention for displaying the hierarchical representation of the information (Fig 3B, 305; Col 15, lines 10-16), displaying and setting MIB variables (Col 28, lines 32-39), and nodes containing hierarchical based MIB variables (Col 23, lines 54-62 and Col 24, lines 34-40.)

23. It would have obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Gosselin, Bremer, and Kekic to display the organization of the MIB and the variables on a screen because it improves the efficiency of Gosselin's invention

by providing a way to manage changing network elements, and through a visual reference, the server can quickly obtain information regarding the status of network elements.

24. As per claim 5, Gosselin does not teach the method wherein each node of the group has a return path to the source of commands and wherein the command is a request to retrieve a specific information corresponding to the list of specific parameters the method further comprising the steps of:

g) Receiving from each given node of the group a current value of the specific information corresponding to the list of specific parameters, and displaying a current value of each specific parameter of the list.

25. Kekic teaches an invention for: a managed network element replying to a requested information from the server (Col 15, lines 59-60), and displaying and monitoring the attributes of network elements, where the user can click on one of several attributes of the element to obtain values regarding the element (Col 27, lines 20-31).

26. It would have obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Gosselin, Bremer, and Kekic to use display the variables on a screen because it improves the efficiency of Gosselin's invention by providing a way to manage changing network elements, and through a visual reference, the server can quickly obtain information regarding the status of network elements. Kekic's invention provides a method to remotely monitor and control elements in Gosselin's invention.

**Conclusion**

27. A shortened statutory period for reply to this Office action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action.

28. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Joshua Joo whose telephone number is 571 272-3966 and fax number is 571 273-3966. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Thursday 8am to 5:30pm.

29. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John A. Follansbee can be reached on 571 272-3964.

30. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

November 12, 2004

JJ

  
JOHN FOLLANSBEE  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100